

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated August 19, 2009, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 4, 17 and 27 have been amended; and claims 5, 6 and 23-26 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 2-4, 7-10, 12-19, 21, 22 and 27-34 are undergoing examiner in this application.

In the Office Action, claims 4 and 17 are objected to because of the informalities. Claims 4 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Prior Art (APA) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,362,858 to Jeon et al. (hereinafter "Jeon"), U.S. Patent No. 6,300,995 to Wakagi et al. (hereinafter "Wakagi") and U.S. Patent No. 6,356,330 to Ando et al. (hereinafter "Ando"). Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,323,918 to Yoshioka et al. (hereinafter "Yoshioka"). Claims 3, 6 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,278,502 to Colgan et al. (hereinafter "Colgan"). Claims 8, 9 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0008824 to Son et al. (hereinafter "Son"). Claims 23-25 and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,219,125 to Ishikura et al. (hereinafter "Ishikura"). Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi, Ando and Ishikura and further in view of Colgan. Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi, Ando and Ishikura and further in view of Colgan. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi, Ando and Ishikura and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,049,365 to Nakashima et al. (hereinafter "Nakashima").

Claims 4 and 17 have been amended, so the objection and the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph are now believed to be moot.

The rejection of claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 4, as amended, is allowable over the cited references in that claim 4 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "... and wherein the common line wraps first ends of the finger portions of the common electrodes such that the common line contacts side and top surfaces of the first ends of the finger portions of the common electrodes, and second ends of the finger portions of the common electrodes are connected to each other." None of the cited references teach or suggest at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 4 and claims 2, 4, 7, 10 and 12, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 17, as amended, is allowable over the cited references in that claim 17 recites a combination of elements including, for example, "... and wherein the common line wraps first ends of the finger portions of the common electrodes such that the common line contacts side and top surfaces of the first ends of the finger portions of the common electrodes, and second ends of the finger portions of the common electrodes are connected to each other." None of cited references teach or suggest at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 and claims 18, 21, 22 and 33, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claims 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of Yoshioka is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Because Yoshioka fails to cure the deficient teachings of the cited references in rejecting claim 4, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 13-15, which depend from claim 4, are allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claims 3, 6 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of Colgan is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Because Colgan fails to cure the deficient teachings of the cited references in rejecting claims 4 and 17, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 3, which depends from claim 4, and claim 34, which depends from claim 17, are allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claims 8, 9 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view Son is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Because Son fails to cure the deficient teachings of the cited references in rejecting claims 4 and 17, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8 and 9, which depend from claim 4, and claim 32, which depends from claim 17, are allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claims 23-25 and 27-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of Ishikura is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Because Ishikura fails to cure the deficient teachings of the cited references in rejecting claim 17, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 27-30, which depend from claim 17, are allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi, Ando and Ishikura and further in view of Colgan is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Because Colgan fails to cure the deficient teachings of the cited references in rejecting claim 17, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 26, which depends from claim 17, is allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi, Ando and Ishikura and further in view of Colgan is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Because Colgan fails to cure the deficient teachings of the cited references in rejecting claim 17, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 31, which depends from claim 17, is allowable over the cited references.

The rejection of claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi, Ando and Ishikura and further in view of Nakashima et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Because Nakashima fails to cure the deficient teachings of the cited references in rejecting claim 4, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 16, which depends from claim 4, is allowable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

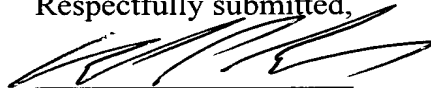
Applicant believes the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,



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